

### **3** Gepatschferner

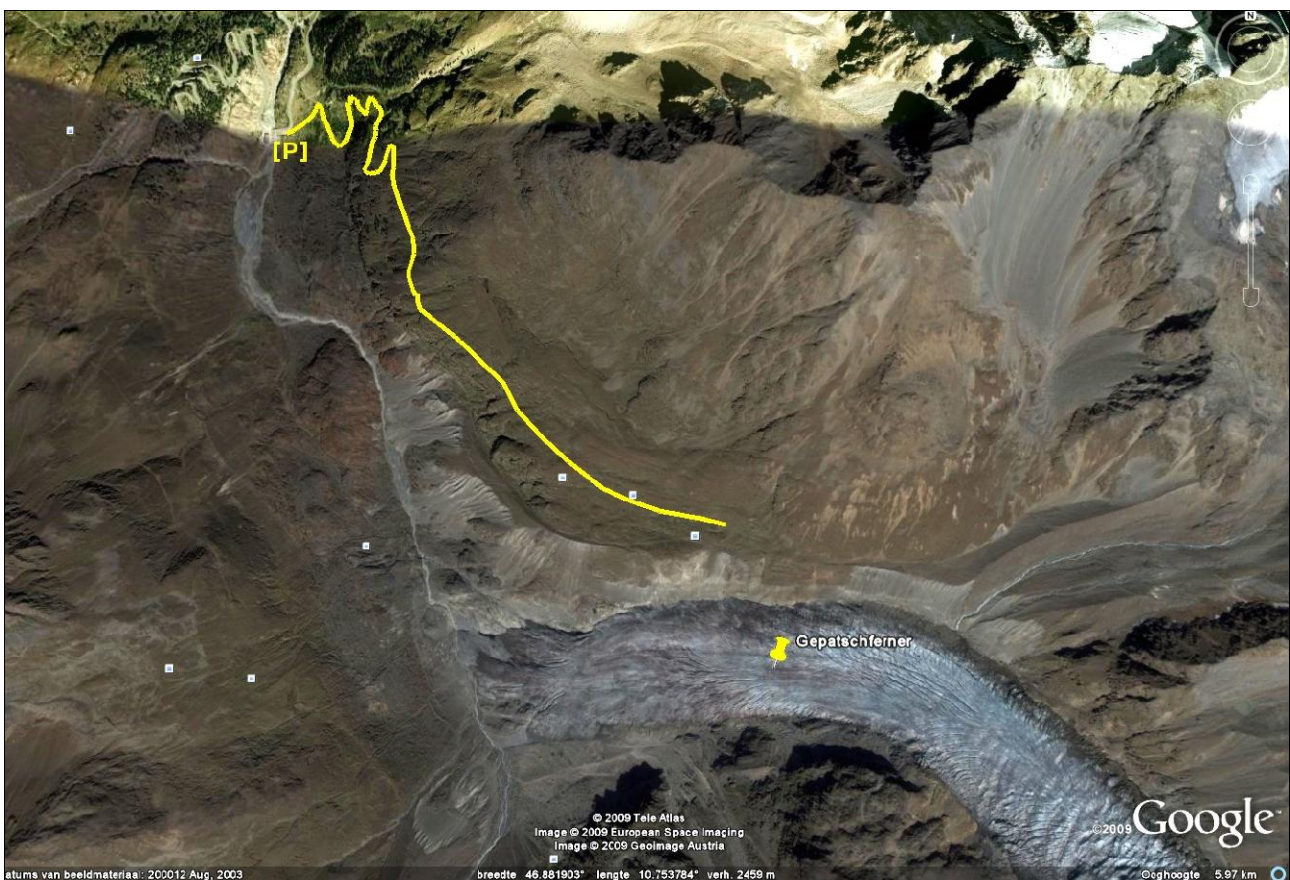
#### **Kaunertaler Gletscherstrasse, Gepatschbachbrücke (1940m) – Im Wannet – View Point Gepatschferner (2500m)**

**Starting point:** Parking lot at the Gepatschbachbrücke at the Kaunertaler Gletscherstrasse (1940m)  
[Kaunertal – Landeck, Tirol]

**Time:** 3½ hours.

**Difficulties:** Well marked mountain paths. Especially the first part is quite steep, then flatter but the route goes alongside a steep mountain side.

**Why worth it?:** The view on the immense ice mass of the (end of the) Gepatschferner and the surrounding mountains and glaciers. Relatively quiet area in the very touristic Kaunertaler Gletscher region.



#### **ROUTE DESCRIPTION:**

There is more than enough parking space at the turn of the Gletscherstrasse around the “Gepatschbachbrücke” at a height of 1940m. At the eastern mountain slope a road sign points towards “Rauekopfhütte”: this is the route we will follow for the most part. First we cross the “Schlitibach” using a wooden bridge after which the well marked mountain path ascends in turns. In a steep climb the path meanders out above the tree line. In the summer months many small water streams will be present here (watch out wet, slippery stones). Once we reach a certain height the route continues in a more straight line, ascending along the way, but not as steep as before.

We turn around the “corner” of the mountain slope several times, yet the Gepatschferner isn’t visible until you reach the area of a memorial (cross) at a height around 2400m. Now you can walk towards the Gepatschferner along the slopes of the Wannet Spitz. This slope is called “Im Wannet”.

At a fork towards Ölgrubenjoch we find a beautiful resting spot: for us the end point of the trip. One can reach the glaciers edge in about 15 to 20 minutes from here. *Watch out: only enter glacier if you have experience otherwise only with a guide due to the dangers of glacier fissures and the like).*

The way back is the opposite of the way we came.

*Route walked in 2009*

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#### Difficulties Legend:

- **1** Moderately easy tour (also perfect for a late afternoon walk). 2 hours max.
- **2** With some physical condition, no difficulties. 1 to 3 hours max.
- **3** Average tour, a moderate, good physical condition is needed! 2 to 4 hours max.
- **4** Difficult tour. Sometimes you have to use your hands to climb (not all the way, just smaller parts). Between 3 to 6 hours.
- **5** Very difficult tour. Here you're at the boundary of "real" mountaineering. The "climbing factor" takes the overhand. Mostly between 5 and 7 hours.